



# OSOTMG NEWS

VOLUME 13 ISSUE 2

MAY 2020- JULY 2020

\*

NEXT IN PERSON MEETING IS TO BE DETERMINED BASED ON THE REOPENING OF BUCKLEY AFB PANTHERS DEN FOR AT LEAST 30 PEOPLE DUE TO THE COVID-19 VIRUS PANDEMIC. WE MET VIA VIDEO TELECONFERENCING ON ZOOM USING THE INTERNET COMPUTER CONNECTION ON MAY 6, 2020 JUNE 3, 2020, AND JULY 2, 2020. WE WILL MEET AGAIN ON ZOOM AT 1100 SEPTEMBER 2, 2020. SEE YOU THEN VIRTUALLY ON THE NET.

\*

### Important Frequently Used Phone Numbers

#### 140th Phone #'s

Casualty Assist  
720-847-6946 Family Support  
720-847-9116

#### 460th Phone #'s

RAO (Retired Activities Office)  
720-847-6693

Legal  
720-847-6444

#### Other Phone #'s

CODMVA  
303-343-1268  
www.colorado.gov  
Deputy Director  
CODMVA

Mickey Hunt  
720-250-1510  
303-249-0146(c)  
michael.hunt@dmva.state.gov

TRICARE (UNITED HEALTHCARE-WEST  
1-877-988-9378

TRICARE for Life  
1-866-773-0404

Social Security  
1-800-772-1213

TREA 39  
303-340-3939

COANG INFO  
140 WG Phone App

### MAY 6, 2020 ZOOM MEETING MINUTES

This is our first virtual meeting on ZOOM via the internet. It was a little confusing at first but it worked out.

According to the Retiree Office, the entrance to the Base is only through the Mississippi gate. You must wear a mask and show your ID through your vehicle window. You must have a military ID to access the base, use the Commissary, Exchange, and Pharmacy

Joyce Saitta said that the NGAUS National Conference and the National EANGUS conference have been canceled.

Our guest speaker is LTC Hope Shrader. At this time all COANG workers are teleworking and/or using ZOOM calls. Flight operations are continuing in addition to minimal maintenance of equipment and aircraft. Also, necessary Security Forces are on duty. Select COANG personnel have been put on title 10 active duty for 60 days to feed the 460th personnel who can't go home to eat. USAF Boot camp persons are quarantined for 14 days, then they start their training. When they come home from a school, they are quarantined for 14 day again. Most other USAF schools have been canceled. COANG personnel who come in for duty are on a Morning or Evening shift to minimize contact and all must wear masks. The COANG has 150 personnel on AD to support COVID-19 medical testing. The COANG is doing two drills a month to keep folks separate. IDs expiration have been extended by 60 days to get past the pandemic. Non-AD Appointments for IDs are with the COANG only, not the 460th Wing. COANG F-16 Operation American Resolve Flyby from Pueblo to Fort Collins (cont pg2)

#### Committee Members:

**Jan Love**

osotmg@comcast.net, 303-693-7538

**Paul and Linda Turner**

paullinda@comcast.net, 303-366-6770

**Dan Gay**

Daniel.gay0954@gmail.com

303-755-7350

**Dewey Hicks**

dewster44@comcast.net, 303-695-8423

\*Contribution Checks should be made payable to "OSOTMG" can be mailed to Paul Turner at 1945 Ensenada St., Aurora, CO 80011-5353.

(cont from page 1) starting at 1630 today. MajGen Loh has been selected as the new Director of Air National Guard (a three star position) at the Pentagon the subject to confirmation by Congress.

The Colorado TAG position is open to persons with O-5 and above, active or retired. June will have several officers moving around in the 140 Wing. Col Terry Worrell 140 Med Gp CC to 140 Support Gp CC; LTC Amanda Hill 140 Med Gp CC; Col Bruno 138 Space Gp CC to COANG HQ JOINT AREA (Probable 1 star promotion); Col Lockett will be the new 138 Space Gp CC; Col Reiman will be the 138 Space Gp Vice CC; Col Southern will be the new 140 Wing Vice CC.

Dewey said that the Veteran's Salute this year is probably canceled.

All retirements have been cancelled.

Jay Gates said that there is a War Bird Flyover on May 14th.

Taps are George Stolley, Dutch Holland, Jim Vitale and Al Headley.

Sick Call is Tom Ortega, Bill Seiler and Jan Love.

Birthday present is Hope Shrader.

Next meeting on ZOOM is June 3, 2020.

### JUNE 3, 2020 ZOOM MEETING MINUTES

The meeting opened with the Pledge of Allegiance to The Flag of The United States of America and the Invocation.

Our guest speaker is 140 Wing Command Chief Lisa Perry. Currently, we have personnel helping locally with COVID-19 testing and assisting at shelters. There are 15 personnel deployed downrange( AOR) for the last 6 months and of which 12 are Security Forces. They are being held in place and cannot return home with travel restrictions until 30 June or later. This is a tough situation for all deployed military personnel. All deployed personnel are quarantined when they get back and new deployed folks are quarantined 14 days before going to the AOR. The Chief of the National Guard Bureau, General Lengyel, visited COANG and COARNG units last week and thanked our folks on the frontlines at the local shelters. He also, briefed the Governor and the units on the status of the Space Force in Colorado. Funding in this Fiscal Year is being proposed to Congress with our representatives on board. Hopefully the 138th and 233rd will see some structural and financial changes in Colorado related to the new Space National Guard. Our own COANG Bgen White has been appointed as the National Guard Space Force Director as a MajGen at the Pentagon. The alert is for 5 days at a time, quartered in a hotel for isolation and the next group relieved them with the same setup. Other folks are on a 7 day two shift rotation with limited personnel on each shift. Volk Field deployment of 1600 personnel is canceled for obvious reasons this year. The readiness training that would be done at Volk Field such as M-16 training, gas mask training, self-care/buddy care and other isolated deployment training, they are being done

#### MAY 6, 2020 ATTENDANCE \*1ST TIMER

Jeff Mague  
Jan Love  
Allie Bess  
Dan Gay  
Dewey Hicks  
George Franzen  
Hope Shrader  
Paul Turner  
Linda Turner  
Jay Gates  
Joe Butkovich  
Shirley Pfister  
Bonnie Rought  
Joyce Saitta  
Kevin Korn

#### JUNE 3, 2020 ATTENDANCE \*1ST TIMER

Allie Bess  
Shirley Pfister  
Jan Love  
Hope Shrader  
Joe Butkovich  
Joe Ashby  
Joyce Saitta  
Paul Turner  
Linda Turner  
Kevin Korn  
Dewey Hicks  
Lisa Perry

JULY 1, 2020 ATTENDANCE \*1ST TIMER

Paul Turner	Wendy Stedman
Linda Turner	Claud Dutro
Dewey Hicks	
Joe Butkovich	
Amanda Hill	
Shirley Pfister	
Jan Love	
Hope Shrader	
Allie Bess	
Ryan Stedman	



(cont from page 2) at their home unit. We expect to have all of the readiness training complete by 31 August. We are still doing ZOOM promotions, ZOOM retirements and ZOOM change of commands. The COANG Family Day has been canceled for this year. We are hopefully going to have a COANG Holiday Party on Base instead of the Family Day and will invite retirees to this gathering. The Panther's Den is not open for use at this time. The 460th is only allowing 25% of their personnel to report for duty and the Dining Facility is only allowing take out for on duty personnel.

Colorado Pride III is still available at Bldg 841 on Tuesdays and Thursdays. If you did not order one, there are some available for purchase for around \$70.

Joyce Saitta said that next years NGACO convention in April 2021 is being worked on and updates are on the NGACO website. We are not able to do in anything this year.

IDs at the COANG are available Monday through Friday by appointment. You must wear a mask and when you come in you must not have come from a foreign country for 14 days- this happened and the ID office had to be quarantined for 14 days.

Sick Call are Jan Love and Bill Seiler.

Taps are Judy Pock, our Knitting/Crochet guru for several thousand items that her group made for our returning troops.

Next ZOOM meeting is July 1, 2020.

JULY 1, 2020 ZOOM MEETING MINUTES

The meeting was opened with the Pledge of Allegiance to The Flag of The United States of America and the Invocation by Paul Turner.

Our guest speaker is LTC Amanda Hill Commander of the 140 Medical Group. She is a Nurse Practitioner in Critical Care in the civilian world. The Medical Group consists of 120 members split into two squadrons; one for support group clinical procedures such as physicals, immunizations etc and the other squadron for domestic and worldwide deployment to support medical needs in the field. The support group is not deployable as a unit but can send a few needed personnel in small numbers in the world. This squadron supports the 140 Wing medical needs and deployable squadron as a unit serves domestic and other deployable needs such as recently helping with Hurricane Harvey in 2017. The deployable squadron was supposed to go to our NATO partner in Slovenia, but the pandemic canceled this deployment. Also, the Annual field training readiness training with the 140 Wing at Volk Field this summer was cancelled, too. They participated in three task force groups with 57 personnel for COVID testing and shelter help along side the Army which constructed medical facilities. Now there are smaller strike teams that go to different places. It is nice to be recognized by the media for this unique non military mission in the state as needed. They have health liaisons with 17 counties to coordinate this effort. They just received manning for a Mental Health Team and are currently filling those positions consisting of a social worker, a psychologist and three mental health technicians. They will be a deployable asset with the 140 Wing or an AEF need in the world. The AD 460th pharmacy is open Tuesday-Friday 0900-1000 for mission essential personnel and from 1000 to 1600 for all other personnel. The gym is for AD personnel. The Panthers Den Dining Facility is still open for duty personnel for takeout only.

Dewey said probably this years' Veterans Salute has been canceled.

Retirements are Ltc Jonathan Riley, LTC Stephen Enea, LTC Chappell

Sick call Jan Love, Bill Seiler and Peggy Seiler.

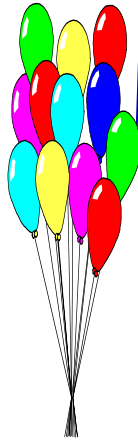
Taps are General Gary Morgan and Ken Findlay.

Next ZOOM Meeting will be August 5, 2020.

MAY 2020 BIRTHDAYS

Hope Adler  
 Buzz Allen  
 Paul Barcroft  
 Marilyn Beckage  
 Cheryl Bohn  
 Janet Bowens  
 Dale Bristol  
 Sharie Butler  
 Kathryn Carter  
 Claude Dutro  
 Ann Eddy  
 Beverly Elmore  
 Monty Faber  
 Woodie Glaser  
 Bob Goetz  
 Bob Hales  
 Charlie Heinle  
 Barney Jensen  
 Flo Wilhelm

Harrel Lambert  
 Mary-Lou Lane  
 Cherlyn Markus  
 Scott McLaughlin  
 Marty Martinez  
 Monroe Mathias  
 Newell Moy  
 Jerry Navarette  
 Helen Nold  
 Joanna Perkins  
 Kim Pipkin  
 Walter Seymour  
 Cliff Sherman  
 Carol Upton  
 Buzz Allen

**Sick Call****Taps**

Jan Love  
 Bob Huffman  
 Pete Triolo  
 Peggy Seiler  
 Sally Howard  
 Bill Seiler

Gary Morgan  
 Ken Findley  
 Victor Smiley  
 Don Geist  
 Johann Been  
 Judy Pock

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS 2020

<u>September</u>	2nd OSOTMG MEETING 7th Labor Day
<u>October</u>	7th OSOTMG MEETING 12TH Columbus Day
<u>November</u>	3rd Election Day 4th OSOTMG MEETING 11TH VETERANS DAY 26 Thanksgiving
<u>December</u>	2nd OSOTMG MEETING 7th Pearl Harbor Day 25th CHRISTMAS

JUNE 2020

Jan Allen  
 Mike Bertz  
 Jodie Brice  
 Jeanne Brown  
 Pat Brown  
 Chris Chaney  
 Dave Chatman  
 Vernon Clark  
 Ben Fagen  
 Donald Ford  
 Robin Foss  
 Carole France  
 John Frary  
 Curtis Gress  
 Jan Love  
 Virginia Love  
 Thomas B Markus  
 Joyce Mason  
 Ann Mccauley  
 Pat Mchenry  
 Stanley Minarsky  
 Richard Oelkers

Steve Pahs  
 Ray Panaguiton  
 Joan Pickens  
 William Pickens  
 Judy Pock  
 Kathy Sander  
 Dale Seiler  
 Tom Shultz  
 Allan Skarie  
 William Spesshardt  
 Bob Stack  
 Ben Steffey  
 Bill Swedell  
 David Thistlehawk  
 Jim Thurmond  
 Paul Turner  
 Alma Valdez  
 Bill Vandeest  
 Matt Wray

**Birthdays**

Larry Asher  
 Elton Baggett  
 George Blackwell  
 Buck Buckingham  
 Deb Burlace  
 Terry Burns  
 Ronald Campbell  
 Pat Christopher  
 Randy Dolan  
 Chris Faber  
 Dick Farmer  
 Dennis Fitzgerald  
 Cathy Forrest  
 Marilyn Fouts  
 George Franzen  
 Thomas Gunning  
 John Hadley  
 Joe Harnke  
 Trish Housley  
 David Knipprath  
 Darrell Koenig  
 Larry Lantz  
 Sam Lovell  
 Marvin McCash  
 Russ McFarland  
 Gary Meis

JULY 2020

Lynette Meis  
 Carol Mielke  
 Bill Miller  
 Mary Lou Misken  
 Thomas Moermond  
 Don Pipkin  
 John Pittman  
 Becky Price  
 Michael Rowan  
 Mike Schunerstein  
 Jane Schomber  
 Vivian Schultz  
 Larry Sell  
 Tony Skarie  
 Bobbie Terroux  
 Gill Thompson  
 Eileen Triolo  
 Gill Thompson  
 Eileen Triolo  
 Stephen Upton  
 Larry Weir  
 Harold Zimmerman  
 Shirley Zimmerman

## Burial and Memorial Benefits

Office of Memorial Engagement and Innovations (OEMI)

National Cemetery Administration



**Bottom Line Up Front:** Many Veterans don't realize that their military service entitles them to be interred in a national cemetery at no cost. Even if you never received disability or any other benefit from the VA, if you served on active duty and were discharged under conditions other than dishonorable, you are eligible. If you served in the Guard or Reserve and were mobilized or served long enough to earn a retirement, you are eligible. Yet most Veterans and their families don't take advantage of this benefit which would save them thousands of dollars. The best, most effective way to ensure you get the burial or memorial benefits you and your spouse have earned through your Army service is through a VA program called Pre-Need Eligibility (Pre-Need).

Pre-Need establishes your eligibility for VA burial and memorial benefits before you die, so your family doesn't have to go searching for documentation at the time of your death. Simply fill out a VA form 40-10007 and mail it in to the St. Louis office indicated on the top of the form. You can print out a form, fill out an online form, and get more information here: <https://www.cem.va.gov/pre-need/>

VA will review your application and you will get a letter confirming or denying eligibility. If approved, place the letter in a safe location, inform your family, and then rest easy.

Pre-Need Eligibility provides Veterans and families with peace of mind. This information is particularly important for members of the Guard and Reserve, many of whom don't realize that their service entitles them to burial benefits. There are some nuances for reservists, who may have to provide additional documentation if a mobilization isn't documented on their DD-214, so it is even more important for them to apply for Pre-Need. Waiting for your family to try to establish your eligibility at the time of death can sometimes result in a non-eligible decision with little or no time to provide additional information. You owe it to your family to take care of this while you are still alive.

If a VA national, state, or tribal Veterans cemetery is selected as the final resting place, a Veteran will receive the following: gravesite, opening and closing of the grave, grave liner, and perpetual care of the gravesite. Also included are memorial benefits such as a headstone, marker or niche cover for a columbarium niche. All are absolutely free, which means a savings of thousands of dollars to the Veteran's family. The Veteran's spouse as well as minor children and unmarried adult children who legally rely on the Veteran for support are also eligible for interment free of charge, typically in the same grave or columbarium niche as the Veteran.

If the Veteran chooses to be interred in a private cemetery, he or she can still have a free government-furnished headstone, marker or niche cover. If the Veteran chooses to be buried in a private cemetery with a privately purchased headstone, marker or niche cover, the family may request a free bronze medallion with the word "Veteran" and the appropriate branch of service to attach to the Veteran's headstone. All Veterans' families also receive a burial flag. At many VA national cemeteries, NCA partners with local military units or volunteer service organizations to provide deceased Veterans with military funeral honors, including the playing of Taps and presentation of the burial flag. Finally, upon request, the Veteran's family will receive a Presidential Memorial Certificate signed by the current U.S. President. Multiple copies can be requested so that all family members can have one.

VA encourages all Veterans to take advantage of Pre-Need Eligibility to ensure they, and families, know their eligibility status in advance. While families can always apply for the benefit at the time of death, applying in advance brings peace of mind and can help resolve eligible problems ahead of time, when the person who knows the most about his or her service—the Veteran—is still around to answer questions. For more information about VA burial and mem benefits, please visit [www.cem.va.gov](http://www.cem.va.gov).

